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CS3270

Learning Experience Review

1. What was your Android experience as a user and/or developer prior to taking this course?

   A: Prior to this course, I briefly did some Android development in 2010 when I was taking CS classes at the University of Utah. I didn't have a firm grasp on object oriented programming, or any programing at all actually. During this time I did familiarize myself with XML however. As far as being an Android user, I've probably had 20 different phones, I usually get the latest and greatest Samsung flagship model the week it comes out. I also have a lot of experience rooting Android devices – There's something about owning a phone and not having super user access that really bugs me!

2. What prior CS courses and/or work experience do you believe best helped you to prepare for this course?

   A: My CS2420 class probably aided the most in my Android development experience this semester. The two database classes I've taken here at WSU also helped me understand the basics of SQLite. I also have a lot of Java experience in the workspace (Java Selenium automation framework design/implementations).

3. How did your learning experience in Android development compare to your expectations prior to the course?

   A: I wasn't sure what to expect as I had never taken an accelerated course like this before. However, in comparison to the other classes I've taken at WSU, I NEVER would have guessed this would take up so much time! I can't wait to have my social life back (I'm sure my girlfriend is pretty excited too!)!

4. What significant new things did you learn during this course? Give specific examples.

   A: I learned more in this class than I've learned in most classes I've taken at WSU. A lot of this learning was on my own, and aside from the weekly modules.

   1. **Setting up a SQLite database and a database handler class**
   2. **Asynchronous tasks – Why, how, and when.**
   3. **Fragment to activity to Fragment communications – This one was huge.**

5. What aspects/topics/technologies of this learning experience caused you the most difficulty? Why?

   A: I struggled the most with fragments. I didn't realize there was the Android.app.fragment and the android.support.v4.app.Fragment. Using one or the other is different, and I didn't know that right off the bat. I burned hours upon hours figuring this out.

6. How do you think learning how to develop Android applications compares to your experience in learning other programming languages and development environments?

A: Compared to the majority of the other classes I've taken, this is something current and useful. Something that would make my resume stand out. Classes like this are far and few between.

7. Describe your primary learning resources used during the course? (ie. textbook, Google development site, etc.)

   A: Three resources only – Canvas discussion board, your videos, and THE INTERNET. If Android   wasn't so popular across the web, this course would have been much more difficult for me.

8. What if anything, would suggest to those planning on learning how to develop in Android?

   A: I would suggest people planning to take this course do some pre-course learning and training. It would have been beneficial is there was an Intro to Android course that was a prerequisite.

9. Do you have future plans for Android development? If so, describe them.

A. **My company has an enterprise IOS app with plans to create an Android counterpart next year. I've already been bugging my manager about it, I want in!**

10. If you could start over in this learning experience, what would you do differently?   What do you think could be done differently concerning the course structure and pace?

   A: I would better split up my time. It's hard to sit in front of a computer and program for 8 hours straight – my brain turns to mush and my code becomes in cohesive and indecipherable. I would have loved the chance to work in smaller chunks of time.